

**Overview**

The Muddy Boots Award is presented to a field supervisor who has excelled in the following areas for underground projects: forward thinking and communication to clear the way for work progress, creative problem solving in the field, assigning team members in accordance with their strengths for an efficient work operation, mentoring future leaders, ethic to provide high quality work, cognizance of the project schedule and budget, and a record of fostering a strong safety culture. Leads by example.

**Timeline**

The Muddy Boots Award adheres to the following timeline:

Due Date	Task
August 1 <sup>st</sup>	Call for nominations due – Issued by Chair for T&UC
September 1 <sup>st</sup>	Nominations Open
October 31 <sup>st</sup>	Nomination deadline
November 20 <sup>th</sup>	UCA Award Committee to submit recipient name and citation to Awards Coordinator
November 30 <sup>th</sup>	Awards Coordinator will submit to UCA Executive Committee
March T&UC	Award recipients announced
Award will be presented annually at the NAT Conference typically held in June or in odd years at the UCA Fall Conference.	

**Nominations**

Nominations should be submitted online by the membership at large to the Awards Committee. The Committee at its discretion, selects a candidate from the nominees for the Executive Committee confirmation.

Current Executive Committee members are ineligible for the award. If assistance is needed with the online application, please contact UCA staff at [awards@smenet.org](mailto:awards@smenet.org) or call UCA Customer Service at 303-948-4200.

**Administration**

The UCA Award Committee staff will administer this award under the direction and supervision of the UCA Executive Committee.

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<b>Selection of Recipients</b>	<p>After nominations have closed, the UCA Awards Committee will be notified that nominations are ready for review. Once notified they will login at smenet.org and view all nominations and supporting documentation.</p> <p>The Award Committee will review nominated individuals and select a recipient. The Awards Committee shall consider the quality of nominations and may decline to make a recommendation if there is no qualified recipient. Using their best judgement, the Award Committee will recommend to the Executive Committee a recipient they determine best represents the intent of this award. The UCA Executive Committee is required to review and confirm the Awards Committee recommendation.</p>
<b>Award</b>	<p>The UCA Muddy Boots Award is to consist of a suitable plaque engraved with the recipient's name and year of the award. The recipient will also receive a complimentary registration to the event where the award is given and a one year UCA membership.</p>
<b>Presentation of the Award</b>	<p>The award is presented annually at the NAT Conference or at the UCA Fall Conference in odd years when the NAT conference is not held. There may be only one awardee per year</p>
<b>Funding</b>	<p>All expenses incurred in respect of the Award shall be the financial responsibility of general Underground Construction Division funds.</p>
<b>Amendments</b>	<p>These guidelines may be amended by the Award Committee, subject to approval by the UCA Executive Committee. Any such amendments must be reflected in all appropriate award documentation.</p>
<b>Questions</b>	<p>Questions may be directed to: Awards Coordinator, Phone: 303-948-4200 E-mail: awards@smenet.org</p>